

## **EXCAVATIONS – TEST -A**

EMPLOYEE NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

This is an “Open Book” test. You should refer to the Tool Safety information available on the Safety Webpage.

Select the choice that best answers each of the following questions.

### **7 Questions (3 pages)**

**Passing Score:** 70% (5 or more correct; up to 2 incorrect allowed)

1. True or False? An excavation refers to a man-made cut, cavity, trench or depression formed by earth removal.  
  
A. True  
B. False
  
2. Any excavation is dangerous. Which of the following is NOT normally a hazard of excavation work?  
  
A. Cave-ins (crush, blunt force trauma, suffocation)  
B. Amputation  
C. Contact with underground utilities (gas, water, electrical, telephone)  
D. Water accumulation / drowning  
E. Atmosphere - asphyxiation (lack of oxygen), combustible gas or inhaled toxic gases  
F. Electrocution
  
3. What is the Safety Policy of the Division of General Services for excavation work?  
  
A. Prohibited – No DGS employee is allowed to perform an excavation of any depth  
B. Any excavation over 5 feet (5') deep requires sloping and/or shoring  
C. DGS employees are permitted to perform excavations of 2.5 feet (2 ½') or less  
D. Outside contractors are required to perform excavations over 5 feet (5') deep

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4. True or False? Before excavating at a DGS-owned or maintained facility, call the Palmetto Utility Protection System (PUPS) at 8-1-1 to identify utility locations. If the utility company does not respond within 24 hours, proceed with caution using detection equipment or other means to locate underground utilities to prevent damage.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
5. A warning system is to be used to alert workers, vehicle drivers and other persons they are approaching the edge of an excavation site. Which of the following is NOT an appropriate part of such a warning system?
  - A. Barricades, fencing, safety cones, warning tape at least 6 feet (6') from the perimeter edge of the excavation
  - B. Danger or Caution signs strategically placed around the perimeter of the excavation site and visible to the naked eye from someone approaching at least 20 feet (20') away
  - C. An alarm siren of at least 85 decibels to be sounded every 60 seconds for at least 5 seconds
  - D. Spotters (for vehicle operators)
  
6. Who plans and supervises any excavation when DGS hires a contractor?
  - A. Safety Office
  - B. FM Building Maintenance Program Manager
  - C. FM Construction & Planning Project Manager
  - D. The Competent Person (i.e., registered professional engineer) working for the Contractor

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7. When the excavation is left unattended, what protective measures are required?
- A. Secured chain-link fencing completely surrounding the excavation site
  - B. A sturdy cover (one which can walk upon without collapse)
  - C. Either A or B or both
  - D. Warning signs posted along the major approaches to the excavation site are alone sufficient

**REMINDER:** Turn this completed test into the Safety Office for grading and to receive credit for the course. Safety will inform you of your test results.